

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 073097
ORIGIN ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 DHA-02 INR-05 CIAE-00 L-01
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TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 073097

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PA

SUBJECT: IAHRC REQUEST FOR PARAGUAYAN HUMAN RIGHTS
LEGISLATION

1. CHARLES MOYER, ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, HAS REQUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING COPIES OF CERTAIN PARAGUAYAN LEGISLATION THAT BEARS ON GOP HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY. THIS MATERIAL IS NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE IAHRC SPECIAL REPORT NOW UNDER PREPARATION ON PARAGUAY. THE MATERIAL HAS BEEN REQUESTED FROM THE GOP, BUT THAT GOVERNMENT HAS NOT RESPONDED. IT IS ALSO NOT AVAILABLE FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS OR THE OAS LIBRARY.

2. THE LEGISLATION REQUESTED : A) LAW 294 OF 1955 - "DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY"; B) LAW 209 OF 1970 - "DEFENSE OF
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PUBLIC PEACE AND LIBERTY OF PERSON"; C) MOST RECENT DECREE EXTENDING THE STATE OF SIEGE, AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER ARTICLE 79 OF THE PARAGUAYAN CONSTITUTION; AND D) THE PENAL CODE GOVERNING IMPRISONMENT OF PREGNANT WOMEN.

3. MOYER IS A U.S. CITIZEN EMPLOYEE OF THE OAS. WE HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH HIM ON MANY SUBJECTS, AND HE CAN BE

EXPECTED TO MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY AS TO THE SOURCE

OF THIS MATERIAL. WE HAVE NOT COMMITTED THE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDING THE REQUESTED MATERIALS, AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS IF IT PERCEIVES ANY MAJOR OBJECTIONS TO PROVIDING THE LEGISLATION.

4. THE TIMETABLE FOR COMPLETION OF THE SPECIAL REPORT IS LATE APRIL OR EARLY MAY, AT WHICH TIME IT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GOP FOR ANY COMMENT. THE REPORT IS THEN SCHEDULED TO BE PRESENTED TO THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENING ON JUNE 14.

5. FYI. THE PARAGUAYAN CHARGE RECENTLY INFORMED THE DESK THAT THE GOP DECLINED TO INVITE THE IAHRC TO VISIT THAT COUNTRY. HE READ PORTIONS OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S CONFIDENTIAL REPLY TO THE COMMISSION, IN WHICH THE GOP OFFERED ITS COOPERATION IN THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION BUT DID NOT ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF A VISIT. END FYI.

6. IF THE MATERIAL CAN BE OBTAINED, PLEASED POUCH IT TO THE PARAGUAYAN DESK, ARA/ECA.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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